Scraps & Facts.

- Hon. D. M. Barringer, late U. S. Minister to Spain, has commenced the practice of law in Charlotte, N. C.

- Queen Victoria has acceded to the request of the Colony of Van Dieman's Land, to change the name of that Island and Colony to

---- Robert Bunyan, Esq., the last male descendent of the author of the Pilgrim's Progress, died at Lincoln, England, on the 17th ult., aged 80.

- Different sounds travel with different velocities. A call to dinner will run over a ten acre lot in a minute and half, while a summons to work will take from five to ten minutes.

- The Florida Legislature, which adjourned on the 15th instant, passed a resolution authorizing the inhabitants of West Florida to vote upon the proposition of seceding and uniting themselves with the State of Alabama.

- The Cincinnati Enquirer thinks the House of Representives would have been organized on the first day of the session, if it "had had the interest of the twenty millions of whites at heart, instead of three millions of blacks."

- South Carolina Conference have resolved to sell their interest, as individuals, in the stock of the South Carolina Rail Road Company, "because the Company would work on the Sabbath day, and they did not wish to partake in making money on the Sabbath."

- Washington letter writer says that Col. John C. Fremont is talked of as the Republican candidate for the presidency. He is a native of South Carolina, a resident of California son-in-law of Col. Benton, and probably on good terms with the Benton Blair Van Buren folks generally.

-The letter of the Washington correspon dent of the Charleston Standard still suggests the possibility of a concentration of the conservative national vote upon Mr. Orr for Speaker of the House of Representative of the United States. Besides this there is also a suggestion that possibly the national Americans may combine on Mr. Boyce.

- A writter in the Knickerbocker Magazine suggests that in all probability the bird of wisdom called owl was intended to be called howl, but the first cockney who 'eard 'im 'oot got h'exasperated and dropped the h'aitch.-H'ornithologists and h'entymologists will please notice and correct their work h'accordingly.

- A man named Willis has on exhibition at New Haven, a machine which he claims to be the solution of the perpetual motion problem. The Palladium says that "the machine certainly goes, and there is no chance, as anybody has yet discovered, of its being moved by any extraneous or concealed force.

- A correspondent of the New York Tribune says that recently, during the balloting for the Speakership, an old Democrat from Tennessee remarked, "that during the previous twenty-four hours he had fancid that he could see the form of the immortal Jackson hovering over the assembly, and with all the energy and determination that formerly characterized him, exclaiming, 'By the Eternal, no more Banks !" "

Northern cotemporary, is the Hon. Wm. Ai- pleasure of many a subscriber. We trust, however, eral of the minor pieces would have graced well the en of South Carolina. His property is estiderly gentleman, active, accomplished and full of kindness of heart. He is a fair representative of a "fine old Southern gentlemen," and he is highly esteemed for his consistent views and ripe experience.

- Mr. Crampton, the English minister has officially communicated the cordial congratulation of his Goverment to Dr. Kane, and requested him to communicate to the officers and crews who, under his command, so nobly attempted to afford to Sir John Franklin and the officers and crews of her Majesty's ships employed on the Arctic expedition the assurance of the sincere gratitude of the British government and people for their generous ex-

- A gentleman of Washington city received lately a letter from Portadown, county Armagh, Ireland, making inquiries in relation to the heirs of John White, who emigrated from the county of Armagh, Ireland, somewhere about the year 1814 or 1815, and who is believed to have left two sons, Abner and ty and wrangling of politicians are unknown. While William. There is about a million and a half our efforts have tended mainly to the development of money for the lucky Whites who can "prove of our home-interests and the discussion of home-afproperty," etc.

- Among the acts passed by the Legislature at its recent session, was one in reference our whole country. Adhering firmly to the old Stateto the monthly returns of the condition of the several banks. It is enacted that they "shall in future consist of monthly statements of the average weekly condition of the banks, as ascertained on Wednesday of each week, in the several particulars." This will have the effect of reducing the operations of the banks to a much more regular system than heretofore. Charleston Mercury.

- A writer has computed that a woman has lost half her chances of marriage at her twentieth year; at twenty-three she has lost three-fourths of her opportunities; and at twenty-six seven eighths of her chances are gone. Eighteen hundred and fifty-six will be leap year-that delightful season, when, by common consent, the fair sex can indicate their perference. Look at the facts presented above, and then improve the advantages of the coming year. Delays are dangerous.

- A despatch from Washington says that Spain has put in possession of this government proofs that the bark Amelia, now on her way from Hayti, is intended for a fillibustering expedition, and requests that the extreme penalty of the law for such cases made and provided be applied to those on board .-It is also said that the government have possession of documents which will lead to the arrest and trial of Parker H. Freuch, the new claims to the calighrened patronage of our people.-Minister from Nicaragua, who has been trysing to get himself accredited at Washington.

___ The Washington correspondent of the inst., says: "Mr. Shorter, of Alabama, made wishes for a HAPPY NEW YEAR. his first speech in the House to-day. He is a good looking man, not much beyond thirty years of age, and quite a graceful and pleasant speaker. But he lacks discretion. He

- The perserevence of Mrs. Gaines, in prosecuting her right to the property of her father, for the last twenty odd years, has been equally as heroic and unexampled as the long continued search, against hope, of Lady Franklin for her husband-although interest, perhaps, dictated in the one case, and affection in the other. Daniel Clark, the father of Mrs. Gaines, made a will, giving her his vast estates, in 1813. After his death no such will was found; but another, according to which the property was appropriated away from her hands. To restore the first will has been her endeavor all this time, although she has never gained an issue directly upon the will till withn the last two years. She has expended thousands of dollars in the matter, living upon "hope deferred," sometimes, doubtless, almost despairing; but now she is about to receive the treasure-amounting in value to several millions of dollars. The press deservedly congratulates this estimable lady upon the favorable decree of the Supreme Court of

-The Carolina Cultivator announces in its last number, that its publisher, Wm. D. Cooke, Raleigh, has procured the services of Professor B. S. Hedrick, Professor of Agricultural Chemistry in the University of North Carolina, under whose editorial supervision the publication will be placed from and after the first of next February. This affords a strong guarantee for the future ability and usefulness of the Cultivator.

The Porkbille Enquirer.

SAM'L W. MELTON.....JOHN L. MILLER.

YORKVILLE, S. C. THURSDAY MORNING, JANUARY 3, 1856.

THE NEW VOLUME.

With this number we enter upon the second volume of the ENQUIRER. It is usual to mark the period by lengthy and labored rehearsal of the events of the year, and a complacent record of its editorial chievements; but the custom, so entirely commonplace as it is, is perhaps more honored in the breach than in the observance. We cannot and will not refrain, however, from rendering in this instance at least a measure of obedience to the mandate.

When we undertook the enterprise involving such n unusual amount of expenditure, although we had knowledge of the temper of the people of our District, our misgivings were not without the shadow of a reason; and our best hopes for success were limted to the expectation of an income sufficient barely to defray the heavy burdens of a new establishment. It is tame to say that our expectations have been more than realized. Our paper has been in existence only a year; and yet, as far as our knowledge extends, there are but two country-journals in the State, and these of mature age, that boast a larger subscription list! In less than three months from the commencement, our circulation had increased to one thousand copies, and since, the enlargement has been steady and sure. To our knowledge, during the entire year, we have not lost a score of names; and in but single instances, and those unworthy of men- standard of excellence in the Musical Department of the Abolitionist, will certainly be elected before the nd insignificant have we heard aught of disapproval or complaint. Thanks to the generous patronage of the business men of York, Chester, Rock-Hill | saw nothing of which to complain. Though the best and Charlotte, our advertising columns have been full to overflowing; indeed, our abundance of suc- could perceive in every piece a very marked improve-The richest man in Congress, says a cess in this respect has been, we fear, beyond the ment. The Choruses were admirably sung, and sevmated at two millions of dollars, including over advertising columns, the general reader will pardon one thousand negroes! Mr. Aiken is an el- the short-coming! To sum up every item in a word, wood and Mr. Kern, the best meed of praise we can our income: clear of office expenditures, has been sufficient to meet more than two-thirds of the entire cost of the establishment.

> thanks are due, and are given with an honest good ly made, will not be fruitless. will. If our humble efforts could but approach our appreciation of these good offices, our duty would be | Monday next. at least well performed, and we should be content. The ENQUIRER was designed to be and we have endeavored to make it a family newspaper-such a paper as would find a welcome where the strife of parfairs, we have not been and shall not be unmindful of the events which mark the political progress of Rights school of the Democracy, and looking to the period when the principles of our creed will find on Southern soil a full and glorious illustration, we shall watch for and discuss measures of politics as they are presented, binding ourselves to no party but the party, whateverit may be, truest to the South, and reserving and exercising the right to withhold our opinions or to give them expression whenever we may choose and, then, in exact accordance with the dictates of our own judgment.

It is needless to say that we enter upon the new year with the most flattering auspices, and with abundant assurances of a continued prosperity .-Whatever may be the measure of our success we shall endeavor truthfully and constantly to deserve it. Beyond the mere pecuniary reward which an intelligent people are ready to afford to an effort earnestly performed, we have incentives to our labor as grateful as they are abundant and strong. Here we were born and nurtured; and here we hope that the story of our life, down to its last chapter, may be told. By the weal or woo of our people, by their fortunes and their reverses of fortune, we must and are willing to abide; and to the well-being of every interest which belongs to our native District, we are linked by all the ties which bind a man to his home! If ours is to be hereafter but the labor of love, so be it; the task shall be not the less cheerfully and

With these words, we submit with confidence our We trust that for the coming year the intercourse between ourselves and our readers will, be fraught mutually with the most pleasant and valued incidents: and with the kindly course is and congratulations Richmond Dispatch, under date of the 24th of the season, to each and all we extend the best

Chairman of the Executive Committee of the District | Farr land, on Broad River. Refer to the advertisewas in favor of expelling the whole Massa- Bible Society, will inform our readers of the annual chusetts representation, because that State meeting of the Society, at the Court-House, on Weded: A House and Lot on Liberty Street in Yorkville had nullified the Fugative Slave Law, and nesday next. The occasion will be rendered inter- and one Rockaway, two Buggies, two Carryalls, and cess; and not only this, but since a struggle way qualified to do ample justice to his subject. We Lowe; four very likely negroes, belonging to the the Calendar. must come, he was in favor of inviting it up- trust there will be a general attendance, and espe- estate of John Steadman, by Dudley Jones the Admust come, he was in favor of the was in favor of fighting hand to hand in the ladies, who proverbially are never of the ladies, which we copy to the campaign, of Viernelder, came up with another dog, and set him the constitution and the ladies, which we copy of the campaign, of Viernelder, came up with another dog, and set him this issue and to which we would direct the attention of the town, by H. H. Whitener. In this issue and to which we would direct the attention of viernelder, came up with another dog, and set him upon Dewett, who was lying on the ground bleeding of our readers. It will be seen that several sy to the advancement of the worthy cause.

OUR EXCURSION TO CHESTER.

Thursday last, we accepted the kind invitation ur Chester friends, and, in company with a respecable delegation of the Masonic fraternity of our own, attended the Celebration of the Festival of St. John the Evangelist, by the Chester Lodge. In their accustomed spirit of accommodation or, perhaps, with their usual keen eyeing of the main hance, the Railroad company placed an extra train at our service, which we employed as pleasantly and smoothly as ever such favors were enjoyed. Upon our arrival, the members were escorted

he Lodge, and presently the procession was conducted to the Methodist Church, where with the appropriate ceremonies the officers of the Chester Lodge ere installed by the Deputy Grand Master, Rev. JAMES D. GIBSON. Following this interesting ceremony, Rev. Mr. MEYNARDIE, the Orator appointed for the occasion, delivered an address, setting forth clearly and in his usual fine style, the nature and objects of the institution of Masonry, and, especialv. its wide-spread success in all parts of the world. The address contained much that was new and instructive, and, for the benefit of those who value its essons, ought to be preserved in an endurable form. At the conclusion of the exercises, the members of the Lodge and their guests partook of a sumptuous entertainment at Mr. John L. CARROLL's new Hotel, near the Depot. The dinner was fine, displaying with the utmost profusion the liberality of Mr. CARBOLL and the excellent taste and skill of his good lady. Many of the Chester ladies, the sisters, wives and daughters of Masons, graced the table by their presence, which of itself would have made it a lordly banquet indeed. In the evening. we returned with the most grateful recollection of kindland hospitable entertainment, acknowledging each to himself that we were all in all "the better

We shall always value these pleasurable interchanges of kindly feeling with our Chester friends, than whom a more genial and warm-hearted commu nity never lived together. May it always be so; and and may the occasions be abundantly multiplied when we can undertake and enjoy, here and there, all those delightful offices of friendship and love

MASONIC. In the evening of Thursday last, after the return rom Chester, the following members of Philanthopc Lodge, No. 78, in this place, were publicly installed officers for the ensuing year, by the Past Master,

Dr. ALFRED CRAVEN:-RICHARD HARE, JAMES L. CLARK, S. W. P. B. DARWIN, J. W. MILES JOHNSON, S. D. J. ED. JEFFERYS, J. D. LEWIS M. GRIST, Secretary, DANIEL O'LEARY, Treasurer. J. S. LEWIS, Tyler. S. J. KUYKENDAL, \ Stewards.

VORKVILLE FEMALE COLLEGE. Our space in the last issue was so circumscribe to deprive us of the pleasure of giving an extendd notice of the Concert by the young ladies of the College, at the commencement of their holiday-season, on Friday before the last. But a word at this late date must suffice. The large Hall of the College was well filled by an attentive and appreciation auditory, and to the credit of all the affair went off very handsomely. We have heretofore regretted that the the College was not commensurate with the value of | end of the week. this elegant accomplishment; but on this occasion we performers of the previous session were absent, we award to the accomplished teachers, Miss Underbestow; and to the young ladies, all the encouragement which such a marked success in their studies

The very large auditory in attendance, their eviweek, in vain-glorious boasting; and now, our near ap- | dent appreciation of the several performances, and proximation to it is, for more reasons than one, any- the fine style in which the pupils of the College are thing but pleasant. The success accorded to our now prepared to acquit themselves, might suggest journal, which, we do not hesitate to say, is unparalel- to the Principals the propriety of more frequent exled in the history of country newspapers in this hibitions. They would certainly present to the young State, is really not of our winning; on the country, ladies many incentives to increased diligence in this much must be attributed to the offices of our friends, department, and at the same time tend to establish whose efforts have been as unremitting as they are among our home-people a higher regard for the real generous and kind. In every corner of our own and in merits of the school, while the happy re-unions which many portions of our neighboring Districts, these such occasions would afford might add much to the kindnesses have been extended to us with an unstint- limited stock of enjoyment attainable in a town-life ed and overflowing hand. To one and all our earnest like ours. We trust the suggestion, so pertinacious-

The exercises of the College will be resumed.

A MERRY CHRISTMAS:

The memory of the oldest inhabitant cannot run oack to the time when the Christmas merry-making n Yorkville was more genial and hearty. Merry heads, merry hearts, merry eyes, merry hands, merry all over, a right merry time we have had of it ! The white and red roses, mingling joyfully, the fair flowers of the "Empire" and the "Old North" States, gratefully dispersing a wealth of beauty and pleasure, and the bouquet crowned with the pure emblem of that blessed institution which binds willing hearts together, all have paid willing tribute to the overwhelming treasury of our joy and gladness, and made of it a season to be marked by an unfading

Tuesday night the re-union at Mr. Rose's was enevening, we have the last of them all at Mr. WALK-ER's. "Come one, come all." It is an old and trite saying that "Christmas comes but once a year"nevertheless, it has a lesson to be improved. Let us improve it, and let the close of the season be as joyous as was its commencement!

SALES AND SALES-DAY.

We learn that at the sale of the estate of Mrs. Ma-BY PETTUS, on the 27th ult., twenty-five negroes sold for the sum of fifteen thousand four hundred dollars. Six of these were young children, and two aged negroessold for merely a nominal amount .-When we consider the scarcity of the medium and, also, the fact that more than half of the negroes were sold as unsound, these prices are almost fabulous. The fact is, we suspect that our friend VINCE McEL-HANEY had more effect upon the sales than any considerations in reference to the money market. It is wonderful what sales a good auctioneer can make, and our friend Mc., affords always a capital exemplification of the fact. It is, to our view, better to employ a thorough-going auctioneer even though at the expense of a dozen prices; therefore, refer to

Next Monday is Sale-day, when he may be expected to appear again in public, and offer several important inducements to buyers. The Commissioner advertises a tract of land east of the Catawba river, belonging to the estate of Kimbrell; also, the House Place, the Milliner Tract and the McIlwain tract, belonging to the estate of WILLIAM S. MAY; also. ments. The following property will also, be offer-

uable tract of land, containing twelve hundred acres, belonging to the estate of Col. F. W. DAVIE; and in of A. H. GRAHAM, will sell several tracts lying in Mecklenburg County. Read the Advertisements.

LATEST NEWS,-PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE. Just before going to press, the mail of yesterday rrived, bringing several important items of news, which we are compelled to compress into the smallest possible space. On Monday last, the President, wearied with the wrangling in the House, sent his

nessage to the Senate. The House refused to re-

Very strong ground is taken by the President in is allusion to our quarrels with England in refernce to the Central American question and the violation of the neutrality laws, and the President entertains doubts as to the pacific termination of the difficulty. Next are discussed the Sound Dues question, of which a liberal view is taken and the Spanish broil, which, he believes, will be settled amicably The Message recommends a retired list for the army; the gradual increase of the Navy; the modification of the postage rates; and the revision and reduction of the tariff rates; says but little about Kansas, and somewhat more about Nicaragua and Mexico. Upon the slavery question, the Message is sound to the core, denouncing the fanaticism of the Northern States, and adhering to the Democratic Constitutional creed. The receipts of the treasury last year are reported at \$65,300,00; expenditures \$56,362,-000; balance in the Treasury, \$18,900,000. We hope to receive the Message in time for our next issue. In the Senate the views in relation to Great

Britain were loudly approved. Accounts from Kansas report a riot at Fort Leav enworth on the 15th, between the Pro-Slavery and Anti-Slavery parties. The ballot boxes were destroved and the voting stopped. An Anti-Slavery been arrested and lodged in jail, the jail was broken open and the prisoner rescued. Great excitement prevails along the frontier. Another account polls to be opened in several places, and that the balwhich should ever mark the intercourse of neighbor- lot boxes were destroyed, and the judges maltreat-

> Late advices from Mexico announce that Alvare had resigned the Presidency, and had been succeeded by Gen. Commonfort. A new Ministry had been

> European papers continue to represent the propects of peace as quite flattering. Austria has submitted propositions to France and England, with the assurances of support, which the allied powers, France especially, are disposed to accept. These proposals stipulate: First, To convert the Black Sea into a commercial one, as a substitute for the third of the Vienna four points-excluding forever the navies of all nations from it; and Second, the whole course of the Danube, its mouths included, to be entirely released from Russian control. It is said that Russia will certainly accede to these proposi-

The Telegraph announces the death of Ex-Sens or, J. M. BERRIEN, at Savannah, Georgia, on Monday. Also, of the eldest Baron Rothschild, at Frankfort on the Maine. Mr. Alcorn a student of the Theological Seminary, Columbia, died suddenly on Tuesday, in the street, of hemmorhage of the lungs No Speaker has yet been elected. The House had adjourned until to-day. The Democrats had held a caucus, and resolved to stand to the last by Richard son and their platform. If this is the course, Banks,

THE LEGISLATURE .- HOME MATTERS.

We are glad to see that the press of our State Legislature. In our correspondence and elsewhere quently, and now introduce it again in order to give place to an excellent article from the Carolina Times. It deserves to be read and pondered well; inasmuch as, in our opinion, the reform indicated deserves more than any other the immediate and careful attention of our people.

" An examination into the unfinished business of the recent session of the General Assembly of this State," says the Times, "will reveal the fact that many measures of importance were not acted on at all, and others not fully matured. Several private claims, involving considerable sums of money, were left unadjusted, thus inflicting serious loss and great hardship upon those immediately interested. Many subjects of a public character, demanding legislation, were not disposed of, but were left over to the next Legislature, either to be again passed by or to force aside new business. In this way, there is rapidly accumulating a vast amount of unfinished business, which is beginning to be felt as a serious public nconvenience, and a hindrance to sound, careful

"This accumulation of business arises from want of time, in which to legislate and not from any remissness or neglect of their duties on the part of our legislators. We are witnesses to the fact, having the very best opportunities of making correct observation, that they labored faithfully, arduously and unremitingly for the speedy disposal of the pub lic business. As is well known, the committees have first to prepare business for the consideration of the Legislature; indeed, nearly every measure of legislation is matured in committee. We known that the committees did faithful and arduous service in the several spheres of duties assigned to them.

"They met early and sat late, and deliberated as ong as their limited time would admit. Each day's ournal will show that the members addressed themselves promptly and industriously to the despatch of the public business. Yet, notwithstanding all, many public and private interests have not been acted onnot neglected or overlooked-but simply not matujoyed to the utmost, and went off superbly. This red; and have been adjourned over to the next ses sion of the General Assembly. It has been the in variable custom, for many years, to close the session a few days before Christmas. This custom allows too short a time for the transaction of legislative business. It afforded time enough in former years. but it does not now. The legislation of the State i rapidly increasing, year by year, and by consequence equires more time for its proper dispatch, and will equire in future still more time.

"It is, then, a question of great importance to the people of the State, to lengthen the annual sessions the General Assembly. Our Legislature should be convened at an earlier period in each year, and sit until the customary time of adjournment, if the people would avoid a vast accumulation of unfinished business, and prevent crude, hasty and hurtful

CUNNINGHAM, of Charleston, but was defeated mainy by those who desire to force the transfer of the ppointment of electors of President and Vice-Presient of the United States to the people. The bill provided for the assembling of the Legislature on the First Monday in November, in each year, instead the Fourth Monday. But, as we have said, it was defeated. The people will have to take the subject in hand, and require an alteration of the Constitution, if they would prevent the evils of an accumulation of unfinished business, or the still greater cvils of ill-digested legislation. The subject is one of vast importance, and should receive the attention which its importance demands.

As far as York is concerned, however, though other sections and the State at large have much of which to make complaint against the recent session, we should for the present at least be satisfied .-There was more legislation in reference to the local interests of our District than those of any half-dozen other Districts in the State-Charleston, perhaps, excepted. Our members worked faithfully to repsucceded admirably. Nearly one-half of the huge "The recent ferocious attack of the London Time Road Bill was for the benefit of York; York made apon the French Marshal, charging him with cow

The most note-worthy of these is the

of the council, all of which, we trust, will be car-Charlotte, on the same day, Gen. Young, the agent | ried out thoroughly and to the better. If our space permitted, we would notice them in detail; this, however, must suffice for the present.

OUR CHAPTER OF ACCIDENTS.

week contains more than one incident which deserves the recording. First is that which befel the town of Beaufort in this State, the best portion of which was destroyed by a disastrous fire on Saturday night the 22d of December. The Charleston Standard has learned from persons on board the boat William Seabrook that "the fire commenced at the west end of Bay street, and crossing over from the south side had destroyed many houses on both, and was only stopped at the Library building, which was cut away. This was in the best part of the town, and the loss of property was very great. The buildings on this street are generally valuable, and if the flames had not been arrested by the prompt removal of the Library building, it is probable the whole street would have been in ruins." Among others, the houses of Capt. Murray, Mr. Capers, Mr. Cockloft, Mr. Adams, Mrs. Cook, and Mrs. Porteous, with the most valuable contents, were destroyed. No insurance, except to the extent of about twenty-five hundred dollars. The Patriot publishes editorially a minute account

of an accident on the Greenville and Columbia Rail Road, on Thursday the 20th. The passenger train, which was preciously freighted with a full cargo of legislators returning homewards, was delayed several hours near Allston, and running out of schedule time came in collision with a freight train, near Newberry, crushing the baggage cars and doing heavy damage to the engines. Luckily all the passengers escaped with their lives. Mr. Solicitor REED and Mr. Wells, the Mail Agent, was badly nan's house was burnt, and the incendiary having hurt—the latter making a narrow escape. The accident furnishes a suggestion which is well put :-"There ought to be a rule of the Company that the freight trains should remain at their proper sations says that the border Missourians would not allow the until the passenger trains pass, no matter how long they may be delayed."

The Charlotte road, too, makes a conspicuous fig-The Charlotte road, too, makes a conspicuous figure in the chapter. Indeed, this "institution" cuts the remainder of his party has been killed. Most such figures so frequently of late that it might be well to set apart a whole chapter for its exclusive benefit. The first to be mentioned, for which, by the way, no blame is to be attached, is one of the queerest on record. On Christmas-day, a male specimen of the "peculiar," who had, in a state of superlative inebriety, stretched himself longitudinally on the track, was run over by the train at full speed, without being in the least disturbed thereby. Strange to say! he escaped unhurt with the loss of a very small portion of the "wool on the top of his head." The hero of such a hair-breadth escape, without a parallel as it is, ought to have a place in Barnum's collection! Another accident occurred on the same road on Saturday last, which, we regret to learn, resulted much more seriously. The Carolina Times thus speaks of it :-

"The passenger train on the Charlotte Railroad due on Saturday afternoon from Charlotte, failed to reach this city until half past eleven o'clock a. m., yesterday, the consequence of a run off one mile this side of the Catawba River. The engine, tender and baggage cars were thrown from the track, and we regret to learn that two negro boys, brakemen, received serious injuries. Allen, the property of Dr. Pride, had one thigh and a leg broken, and otherwise severely injured. A boy, the property of Mrs. Jones, received internal injuries, which it is feared are of a serious nature. Wm. Litle, Esq., United States Mail Agent, narrowly escaped being trushed to death. The passengers escaped unhurt, and apart from the injuries sustained by the brakemen, the ac-

We must felicitate the public service, as well as our friend Col. LITLE, upon his happy escape. The nive undertaken to discuss and urge the propriety of | Col. is a right jolly, clever sort of a man, and withal extending the period of our annual sessions of the a capital officer, and should the road succeed finally the district; the committee on tentories would rein effecting his detriment, the service will sustain a has to be equalled only by that of his many friends. We hope his good luck will continue to travel with

> Of course our readers may expect hereafter many other chapters of the same ilk. This may suffice for

> > EUROPEAN AFFAIRS.

The steamship Pacific has arrived, with dates from Liverpool to the 15th of December. The following items embrace the more important features

Kars had fallen into the hands of the Russians the garrison having been starved out. When Gen. Kenethy escaped from the city, to hasten the advance of Omar Pasha, Gen. Williams was sending in a flag of truce to offer terms of capitulation. Nothing further is known, but it is believed the place-had surrendered, the garrison being too weak to cut their way through the Russians. Omar Pasha was near Kutais, which was held by a strong force of

In the Crimes, the Russians had attacked the extremity of the French lines with 8,000 men, but after an hours' fighting, withdrew. Both armies are comfortably housed. The firing continues between North and South Sebastopol.

Russia has negotiated a new loan of 50,000,000 roubles. The Austrian army was being reduced to the peace footing.

More rumors regarding stace but certain negotiations made no progress. Fifficulties are known to exist in ae English Cabinet. Lords Palmerston and Panmure urging a continuance of the war, while the rest of the Cabinet favor Napoleon's suggestions for

15,000 to speculators and exporters.

It falls out very stangely that Louis Napoleon is now suggesting comsels of peace, and thereupon the English government hesitates! How suddenly and unaccountablythe aspect of affairs have chanpore and groaning erily with the weight of the the supremacy an grasping at conquest, decreed loudly for the wa! It passes our feeble comprehension. The suggestion comes from France, and an extract frm a letter of the Washington corresmay serve tigive an insight into the secret of these strange motmorphoses :-"The lat news from Europe, in official as well as

unofficif circles, is deemed to be of unusual significance. It is thought to presage an early disruption of thalliance between England and France. The desprate financial condition of the latter governmentthe dismal prospect of a famine this winter among to French people, together with the well known act that there has never been for the last plutionwithout a famine, has naturally alarmed and disinched Louis Napoleon to risk any further drains upon is resources, and, accordingly, we find the presof Paris chiming in concert for negotiations whit may lead to peace. The withdrawal of the Frech forces in the Crimea at points where they cape of no service, and the demand of Gen. Pelis sie who is at Paris, for the complete evacuation of th Crimea by the 160,000 French troops, on the gund that further operations would be fruitless nst augur a reversal of the late warlike policy of resent the wants and redress the grievances of their constituents, and with but one or two exceptions er's advice.

ardice and imcompetency, and its studied eulogium Mr. Brooks, of South Carolina, was for disun- esting by the address of Rev. Mr. Ross, who is one one small Wood-Wagon, by Mr. Skider; six lots on a most respectable figure in the Incorporation Bills, ardice and imcompetency, and its studied eulogium one small wood-Wagon, by Mr. Skider; six lots on a most respectable figure in the Incorporation Bills, ardice and imcompetency, and its studied eulogium one small wood-Wagon, by Mr. Skider; six lots on a most respectable figure in the Incorporation Bills, ardice and imcompetency, and its studied eulogium one small wood-Wagon, by Mr. Skider; six lots on a most respectable figure in the Incorporation Bills, ardice and imcompetency, and its studied eulogium one small wood-Wagon, by Mr. Skider; six lots on a most respectable figure in the Incorporation Bills, ardice and imcompetency, and its studied eulogium one small wood-Wagon, by Mr. Skider; six lots on a most respectable figure in the Incorporation Bills, ardice and imcompetency, and its studied eulogium one small wood-Wagon, by Mr. Skider; six lots on a most respectable figure in the Incorporation Bills, ardice and imcompetency, and its studied eulogium one small wood-Wagon, by Mr. Skider; six lots on a most respectable figure in the Incorporation Bills, are small wood-Wagon, by Mr. Skider in the Incorporation Bills, are small wood-Wagon, by Mr. Skider in the Incorporation Bills, are small wood-Wagon, by Mr. Skider in the Incorporation Bills, are small wood-Wagon, by Mr. Skider in the Incorporation Bills, are small wood-Wagon, by Mr. Skider in the Incorporation Bills, are small wood-Wagon, by Mr. Skider in the Incorporation Bills, are small wood-Wagon, by Mr. Skider in the Incorporation Bills, are small wood-Wagon, by Mr. Skider in the Incorporation Bills, are small wood-Wagon, by Mr. Skider in the Incorporation Bills, are small wood-Wagon, by Mr. Skider in the Incorporation Bills, are small wood-Wagon, by Mr. Skider in the Incorporation Bills, are small wood-Wagon, by Mr. Skider in the Incorporation Bills, are sma ion in the event of the Republican party's suc- of our best men and ablest preachers, and in every main-street, in the surburbs of the town, by G. W. and indeed had a place in almost every other Bill or sinuations that while, at the end of two years, Eng land, which started with such disadvantages in point of a standing army, finds herself in an improved condition to prosecute hostilities, while her condiu-

from the staggle all these are indications of impaired cordility at the part of Great Britain. Private advices in valso been received, confirming this view, in which is stated that great chagrin and bitterness as prately expressed among the British officials towardseir Imperial ally; and it is regretted Englandid not begin the war on her own hook, without a mpting land operations, but limiting herself to timore economical, and doubtless, more glorious mod of crippling the maritime commerce, and blocking the ports of Russia. In this The chapter of accidents current for the past respect, the spectations of your Parisian correspondent are fortified, the most trust-worthy evidence to the subject prorable at Washington.

INIAN TROUBLES.

We are beginninto hear more of our Indian troubles. A telegraph dispatch, announcing the arrival of George Lagrom California, contains this portentous addendus. "The war in the North is progressing with muchiolence. The Indians in Pugent's Sound have sered into an alliance against the whites." In relion to Gen. Harney's movements in the West, atter of November 10th says that a council was hel recently with thirty or forty Sioux Indians, in wich the veteran General read out the ultimatum requing them to come to terms of peace within the peril of one hundred days, interspersing the comman with declarations to the effect that "it was immerial to him how they acted, as he would just as sen fight as have peace."-The Indians in the councilexpressed their convictions decidedly in favor othe latter alternative.

The news from the Semiples in Florida is of the most startling character, ad deserves the larger share of attention. The stamer Carolina, which arrived in Charleston on Sturday from Pilatka, brought an extra containing de following official information, bearing date at Fort Brooks, (Fla.,) December 23d, 1855:

"An exploring party, undethe command of Lieut. George L. Hartsuff, 2d Artiery, consisting of one sergeant, one corporal, and seven privates, were suddenly attacked by a parti of Seminole Indians on the 20th, about sixteen ales south east from Fort Simon Drum, that post hing about forty miles south east from Fort Myers. The party left Fort Myers on the morning of the th instant, and up to the time of attack were engagd in making a re-ex-amination of the portion of th Big Cypress Swamp examined by the troops last wher. Three men of the command arrived at Fort Iyers on the night of eighteen in number, were also hot down. Lieut. Hartsuff, when last seen, had se arm broken, and is supposed to have been wounded in the side. Pri-vate Hanna, of company G, 2dartillery, one of the party who escaped, brought the bove information to Fort Myers. Hanna was wounded in the abdomen

-not seriously, it is thought. He left another of the party, private Baker, also wanded, about eighteen miles from Fort Myers. Baker gave out at that point, and could come no arther. The Indians making the attack were sme twenty-five or thirty in number. Two compares of the 2d Artillery were to leave Fort Myers on the morning of the 22d instant, in search of Lieut Hartsuff and the missing members of the party. Other movements of the troops in the direction of the battle ground were ordered immediately on thereceipt of the information concerning the attack?

of the Ranger."

CONGRESSION

"There are three parties in the House : 1st, the Black Republicans, who support links of Massachu-setts, who may be set down at the present time as being ready to make every possibly aggression upon the South, except the abolition of slavery in the States, at that point they profess testop. The leading exponent of this party on the floor is the notorious Joshua R. Geddings, of Ohi whose extreme onlyings on the slavery question he his heart a least opinions on the slavery question he hitherto almost insolated him in the House. He imade the leading spirit, on his motion the caucus natinating Banks a resolution was passed not to suport any man for Speaker who would not stand pleged to organize object of this resolution was to ck the leading committees with abolitionists, so the the respective committees might report abolitic manifestos and bills; the committee on the districtof Columbia for instance, could report for the abolion of slavery in port the prohibition of slavery in the territories; the committee on commerce, the polibition of the entire State ocean slave trade; the committee on foreign relations, a recommendation or the acknowledgment of the independence of Hati and reception of a minister. Mr. Geddings has alo made a speech in the House, of the most uitra description; among other things, he said the North intaded to abolish slavery in all the territory of the fedral government, and that the North did not intend | let the South quit the Union. In the same speed, Geddings further said: "I say to the slaves of irginita defend yourselves. I would to God I could roclaim to every slave in Virginia to-day, you he the right of self-defence, and when the master tempt to exer-cise the right of dominion over you slay him as he would slay yourselves." Now this laguage of Geddings is important, not as the opinin of one man, but as the leading spirit of those whyote for Banks. One hundred and seven members lave voted for Banks, who stands upon a commo platform with

Geddings. Comment is unnecessar The next party in numbers in the louse are those who vote for Richardson of Illinois consisting of seventeen northern democrats, the Plance southern democrats in more or less connecth with the democracy. Richardson is one of he soundest of northern men, and stands squarely the Nebraska and Kansas bill, and opposition to the Now Nothing party. His vote stands usually at 1

The third party is the National How Nothing or American party, made up of some 3 southern men, and some 5 or 6 northern men. The vote for Ful-ler of Pennsylvania. His positionas defined by himself is this, acquiescence in the resent Legislation of the country on the subject if slavery, willingness to admit Kansas-with or whout slavery, as the people may determine in foring a constitution, and opposition to the renewa of the slavery agitation. Besides these three peties, there are

some 4 or 5 scattering votes, thrown individuals." The foregoing extract from the Jashington correader sufficiently in regard to the distinctive features and the relative strength of the several parties whose struggle for the mastery hashus far deferred Cotton opened active but closed quiet at 1-16d | the organization of the National Hase of Represenadvance. Sales of the week 56,000 Bales, including tatives. For four weeks the latter as been fraught incessantly, and as yet with no cent. Day after day, with but little intermission, he time has been consummed in ballotting-each fort marked by similar results: BANKS, 101 to 10 votes; RICHARDson, 67 to 74: Fuller, 30 to 83 ; cattering, 0 to 9. ged. But yesterday England was bleeding at every We shall not hazard a conjecture to the issue when such elements are at work. Of his, only, can we burden; while Frace, elate with victory, asserting be assured: none of those now pominent can command a majority of the votes, and before an election can be effected, the conservativenembers of all parties must unite upon some one whose past course is first hinted & France from the Crimea, by the has been such as to render him as obnoxious to ob-Marshal Pellifer, who has informed his Majesty jections founded purely upon prty influences. Our that another capaign in the peninsular will prove representatives, Col. Orr, by hincknowledge fitness fatal to the any, and must not be sustained. Here, for the station, and Mr. Loyce by his liberal and conciliatory bearing towards the members of the Apondent of te New York Post comes in aptly, and merican party, have taken peminent positions among the reserved forces, and leter-writers represent the prospects of each as quit flattering. Should such a result be determined i favor of either, we shall of course be more than stisfied.

Such a result might ere this have been attained, but for the ill-advised, selfish and unpatriotic action of the Democratic caucus, in bference to the Southern members of the Americal party. The Resoluhalf coury a famine without a revolution, or a rev- tion, which has given such seious and we fear irre-

concilable offence, reads as follows :-Resolved. That the Democratic members of the House of Representatives, though in a temporary minority in this body, deem than fit occasion to ten-der to their fellow citizens of the whole Union their heartfelt congratulations on he triumph, in the reand Western, as well as Soutern States, of the principles of the Kansas-Nebrasa bill, and the doctrine of civil and religious libety, which have been so violently assailed by a soret political order known as the Know Nothing pary; and though in a minority, we hold it to be out highest duty to preserve our organization and ontinue our efforts in the ance and defene of those principles and th constitutional rights ofevery section and every class of citizens against thei opponents of every descrip-tion, whether the so-caled Republicans, Know Nothing or Fusionists; andto this end, we look with conidence to the supportand approbation of all good Constituti

demn the intemperate zeal and, under the circumstances, the stupid folly which characterize this action. True, the resolution announces the well-known and well-defined policy of the party, and in this view alone ought not to be objectionable. Under other circumstances, no one, whether friend or foe, would have doubted the propriety of its adoption. But the very fact that it announces a well-defined and well-known policy rendered its promulgation entirely unnecessary. Coming, as every member had done, from the heat and toil of the canvass, no right motive could have induced them to such an impolitic and ancalled-for action It must have been known that the Democratic

party could not of itself command a majority in the

House, and at the outset the apprehension might reasonably have been entertained that success could only be had eventually at the price of mutual concession and compromise. It was the height of folly, then, for the party to rule out thus peremptorily the only friends whom, outside of their own ranks, they could claim. The contest is really one of slavery with anti-slavery, and to this complexion must it come at last. Upon this single proposition is based the creed of the Republican party; and upon it, the conservative men, Democrats of both North and South, and Americans, must make the issue. With but a few base exceptions, they are sound slaverymen, and upon this basis all might and could, but for this unlucky mis-step, have long ere this been united to a man. This must yet be done; and in order to it, the Democratic party should, with a display of a degree of its wonted patriolism, recede from a position to which, we fear, it has been driven solely by an insame and uncalculating spirit of party rancor and that selfish and corrupt clutching after the spoils-the bane of party purity and highborn patriotism. Unless the olive-branch is thus held out, candor compels ur to say, upon the Democratic party must rest the responsibility. Samsonlike madly and blindly, they will have involved in their own the destruction of all that they were commissioned to preserve, protect and defend beyond the progress of this struggle.

Of course, the proceedings in both Houses are devoid of special interest. The political world is at a stand-still, and, until the House is organized, must so remain. Whenever the machinery gets into motion, we shall announce the fact, and continue, week after week, to furnish our readers with a full and accurate report of the progress of the session.

"LET HER SLIDE!" In the National Intellinencer's report of eedings of the House of Representatives on Monday ast, we notice the following :

Mr. Boyce, of South Carolina, desired to ask the gentleman from Massachusetts several questions, which he hoped would be answered. He would ask the Missouri restriction, of the entire prohibition of slavery in all the Territories of the United States, of the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia, and of the inter-State slave trade; and, further, The above information embrace everything known officially concerning the attack, p to the departure dence of Hayti, and of receiving, as a representative to this Government, a black minister, and of the total or partial repeal of the fugitive slave law? [Loud cries of "order," "order."]

Mr. Morgan, of New York, insisted that the gen-

tleman from South Carolina was out of order.

Mr. Washburn, of Maine, hoped he would be allowed the privilege of asking some questions of the gentleman from Illinois, (Mr. Richardson.) Renewed cries of "Call the roll," and much con-

Mr. Boyce. Does the gentleman from Massachu etts refuse to answer me Mr. Banks addressed the Clerk; but, there being

o question before the House, debate was ruled Mr. Letcher, of Virginia. I move that the gen-

ken the floor. Mr. Boyce. One more question, and it is this: Is the gentleman from Massachusetts in favor of an the States? [Reiterated cries of "order." Mr. Banks. I know the gentleman from South Carolina well, and I have noticed the votes he has given in this contested election for Speaker. When the gentleman for whom he has consistently and estly voted had an interrogatory propoun him. I recollect that that gentleman repl assuach as the interrogator was not a candidate, and therefore had the advantage over him, he would de-

cline to answer. I thought it was well, and I make the same response. [Great laughter.]
Mr. Florence desired to offer a resolution which would require immediate action. He desired that it should be read, so that it might be considered and acted upon after there had been a vote, if gentlemen desired it. He would read it. 25th instant, being Christmas"—[loud and prolonged laughter]—"a day held in holy veneration by Christian men as the advent of the Saviour of the world"—[renewed laughter]—"and. besides, being regarded and kept as a holiday almost universally, it is ordered that, to enable all who desire to parti cipate in the religious observances or secular festivities of the day, the members of the House of Representatives of United States will not assemble again, after an adjournment to-day, until Thursday, the

"call the roll," and laughter.] Mr. Florence. Well, let it go. The Clerk then proceeded to call the roll for

27th instant, at meridian " [Loud cries of

sixty-eight vote for Speaker.

Mr. Brooks, of South Carolina, when his name was called, before giving his vote, desired to make a few remarks suggested by the questions propounded to the gentleman from Massachusetts. He thought that in politics, as in every thing else, fair play was a jewel, and, in due deference to his colleague, he regarded his questions as illiberal. The gentleman from Massachusetts had announced that in certain contingencies he would be willing to "let the Union slide. The gentleman (said Mr. B.) has assumed the position that if the doctrines of the pro-slavery, and, as I think, constitutional men obtain, in that event he (Mr. Banks) will be willing to "let the Union slide." I hesitate not to say that if the genrespondent of the Carolina Timeswill inform the theman's construction of constitutional power prevails in this country, I, for one, am willing to en-

dorse his sentiment with all my heart, and say "le He had been charged at home with being a little too national; and, if he could have a constitutional Government, God knew that every feeling of his: heart, his patriotism, his duty to his Maker and his: fellow-men, would impel him to do all he could to preserve the country. But things were taking a course which he confessed was music to his ear. It was well for gentlemen to understand each other, and he thought that he began to understand the gentleman from Massachusetts and his colleagues. If they had a fixed determination to carry out their plans, he desired his people to know it. If they of the South could not have the Government adminis tered as they believed the Constitution required, he desired to say to gentlemen of the North, without sue here, for he never could understand that kind of patriotism or chivalry which caused a man to leave the hall and go home to his people to make the fight.

This was the place, and he, for one, was willing to
take his stand. If the question was to be decided by arms, they should meet it here like men, and tell their constituents that they were not willing, when danger presented itself, to run to them for protection, but that they, who had been appointed as their standard-bearers, would, like men, assume the re-sponsibility of fighting the battle upon the floor of

'Atrocious Outrage.

About 1 o'clock on Tuesday, an affray occurred n a tavern at the corner of Calhoun and East Bay street, between a man by the name of Christ and another by the name of Gibbes. Two gentlemen. named Edward T. Jones and Geo. Dewett, passing at the time, seeing a crowd around the door, very naturally stopped to see what was the matter They went into the tavern and saw Christ, who is the proprietor of the place, on top of a man, beating him very badly with a stout club with a loaded head.— The gentlemen made a remark that they did not think it was right to be beating a man in that way when he was down. Upon this, Christ immediately attacked them. Mr. Jones received a blow on his head which knocked him down; Dewett started out into the street, followed by Christ, who held a large and powerful bull-dog by the collar. Upon his over-taking Dewett he struck him a severe blow, which felled him to the earth; he then let loose the dog upon him, which bit and lacerated him in a shocking manner; and every time that Dewett would make an attempt to rise, he was struck on the head by this Mr. T. C. Hubbell, a gentleman who lives in the vicinity, immediately went and tried to make this villain stop, and it was not until he told him he would be hung for it, that he did stop. A few se-conds after Mr. Hubbell had made Christ draw off